



Rendering of the Clark Family Branch building that will replace Headquarters.

FOR THE RECORDS

History & Genealogy: Temporary Location and Services

Clark Family Branch Construction

Construction has begun on the Clark Family Branch Library – the future home of St. Louis County Library’s Emerson sponsored Genealogy Center.

To learn more about the Clark Family Branch and follow its progress, PastPorts readers can find more information on the Your Library Renewed building campaign page for the Clark Family Branch located on the library’s website [slcl.org/content/building-projects-clark-family-branch].

Temporary Closure

History & Genealogy closed to the public on May 28, 2022 – Memorial Day weekend, an appropriate choice for genealogists! On June 2nd, History & Genealogy staff began the monumental and arduous task of boxing up over 12,000 microfilms and preparing over 130,000 print materials for transfer to temporary quarters.

Over a six-week period from June 7 – July 12, print materials were loaded onto book trucks and transferred by Dodge Mayflower to three separate library locations. Library Facilities, Branch, and History & Genealogy staff worked in concert to ensure genealogical resources were transferred securely and stored safely in proper temperature-controlled facilities without a hitch. It was an amazing team effort!

So where are all the books?

We of course know what is on the minds of all our PastPorts readership – “where are all the books?” Here is what is available:

Daniel Boone Branch Library

History & Genealogy reopened to the public on July 6 at the Daniel Boone Branch Library, 300 Clarkson Road, Ellisville, MO 63011. Meeting Rooms 2 & 3 of the branch have been combined into a small reading room where H & G staff are available 9 am-9pm Monday-Thursday, 9 am-5pm Friday-Saturday and 1-5pm on Sunday.

History & Genealogy provides the same access to digital resources and microfilm it made available at the former library headquarters. Patrons have access to Ancestry, FamilySearch, Newspapers.com, and many other online genealogical resources. Over 12,000 microfilms are available for patrons to use. Space limitations have restricted the department to one microfilm reader. Four public computers are available for database research.

Print collections available at Daniel Boone include St. Louis City and County directories, phone books, and atlases. All standard size print resources for Missouri and eight nearby Illinois counties (Bond, Calhoun, Clinton, Jersey, Maucoupin, Madison, Monroe, and St. Clair) are available. Unfortunately, space has restricted access to oversize resources.

Microfilms in the collections at Daniel Boone include many sources that have not been digitized by FamilySearch or other digital content providers. These include Lutheran and German Evangelical (UCC) church records, regional marriages, local newspapers and other resources.



History & Genealogy reading room at the Daniel Boone Branch.

Family Histories

In order to ensure access to as many resources as possible, a portion of branch space has been utilized for the storage of History & Genealogy’s Family History Collection (call numbers 929.2 A – Z).

These materials are not open to the public but are available by request. Local patrons may request circulating copies of these resources using the library’s catalog system. Inter-library Loan (ILL) requests for circulating items can be made through your participating public library for distance users. For reference items, History & Genealogy can pull copies

for viewing at the Daniel Boone Branch reading room. Local patrons may submit a request for reference copies by sending an email to genealogy@slcl.org. For our long-distance patrons, History & Genealogy offers free look-ups from these resources. Submit your look-up request using our Lookup Request Form [slcl.org/content/lookup-request].

Select European Sources

History & Genealogy was also able to reserve staff-accessible storage space for many of the department's European sources. Resources available cover the call # range of 943 A through 949.97 W and include some key regions of Europe for genealogy researchers:

- 943 Germany and neighboring central European countries
 - 943.6 Austria and Liechtenstein
 - 943.7 Czech Republic and Slovakia
 - 943.8 Poland
 - 943.9 Hungary
- 944 France
- 945 Italy
- 946 Spain and Portugal
- 947 Russia
 - 947.7 Ukraine
 - 947.9 Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia
- 948 Scandinavia
- 949.4 Switzerland
- 949.8 Romania (Banat)

As with the family history collection, resources are available upon request. Circulating titles are available to be placed on hold by local patrons or can be requested through ILL. Reference titles can be requested via email and viewed at the Daniel Boone Branch, or pages can be requested through our Lookup service.

New Titles

History & Genealogy continues to grow our resource collections to support your genealogical research. Any circulating resources which are acquired and cataloged during the construction period will be made available to fulfill holds or inter-library loan requests. This includes all books added through St. Louis County Library's partnership with the National Genealogical Society.

Any new reference titles for Missouri or the eight Illinois counties held at Daniel Boone will be transferred and made available. In addition, any new Family Histories or European materials added to the collection will be made available by request.

Research Assistance

History & Genealogy staff are available to assist you with your genealogical inquiries. You can always come visit us at the Daniel Boone Branch Library during open hours. If you would like to speak with one of our

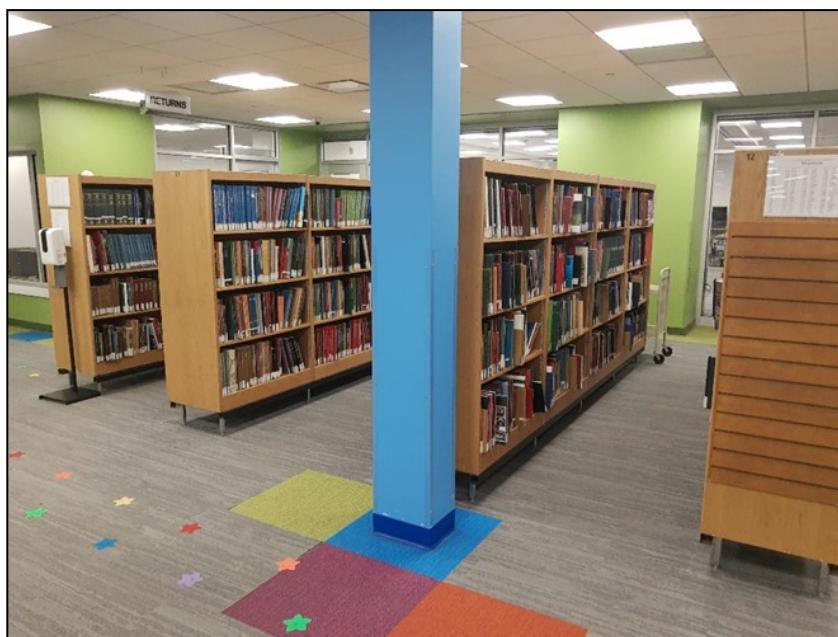
professional genealogists, researchers can call 314-994-3300 and select “5” from the menu to get a direct line to History & Genealogy.

History & Genealogy continues to provide its popular look-up service. Please remember, we are limited to only those resources at our disposal as mentioned above.

History & Genealogy also offers our one-on-one Book-A-Genealogist program. If you have a specific inquiry regarding a brick wall or questions on how to approach a particular subject, you can request a one-on-one session with one of our staff genealogists. Staff may request you provide specific documents or detailed information prior to scheduling your appointment. You can request a Book-a-Genealogist appointment using our online form [scl.org/content/book-genealogist].

For the beginning genealogist, History & Genealogy has recorded many of our popular classes. They can be located on the library website in our Virtual Classroom [scl.org/genealogy/virtual-classroom].

If you are planning to visit the St. Louis County Library History & Genealogy Department, please call ahead if you have any questions or to make sure the resources you are interested in are available.



Missouri and Illinois books available at History & Genealogy at the Daniel Boone Branch.

SLCL

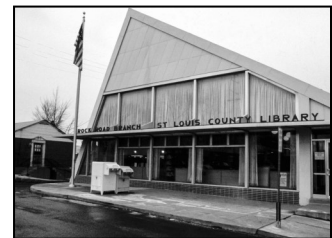


THROUGH THE DECADES

In celebration of the St. Louis County Library's 75th Anniversary, we are featuring highlights of the library's history "through the decades."

1940s-1960s

- The St. Louis County Library District was established by voters in April, 1946 with a 10 cent tax levy
- Library planning began in a temporary office inside of Normandy High School
- A bank building at 2557 Woodson Rd. in Overland, MO was remodeled and became the first library building/headquarters
- The first library book was loaned on March 13, 1947
- 1091 library cards were issued in the first 6 days
- The library operated "Booketerias," small self-serve displays of library materials, in stores and other public spaces throughout the county before branches could be built
- At its 20-year mark, the library had 24 bookmobiles that made regular visits to more than 200 schools
- The library introduced new technology during this time, including the Audiocharge to check out books, the Addressograph machine to catalog books, the Regiscope camera to record transactions, and, in 1967, IBM equipment to streamline record-keeping
- Branches established:
 - Kinloch Branch 1947 (closed 1985)
 - Heidbrink Branch 1948 (closed 1987, replaced by Parkview Branch)
 - Natural Bridge Branch 1951 (served as second headquarters)
 - Rock Road Branch 1957
 - Tesson Ferry Branch 1958 (closed 2015, replaced by Grant's View Branch)
 - Headquarters 1960 (closed 2022, will be replaced by Clark Family Branch)
 - Lewis and Clark Branch 1963
 - Florissant Valley Branch 1964
 - Daniel Boone Branch 1966



Photos courtesy of the St. Louis County Library's Flickr account [[flickr.com/photos/slclevents/albums/](https://www.flickr.com/photos/slclevents/albums/)].

History & Genealogy services

The following H&G services are free and available to researchers who are unable to visit the library.

Lookup service

H&G can provide photocopies, prints, or digital scans of many library materials from indexed sources or when given a specific citation:

- Up to 30 pages from one book or one article from a journal issue. Staff can also photocopy or scan tables of contents and index pages.
- Microfilmed records—A list of microfilm available in the H&G collection can be viewed [online](https://bit.ly/3jrqw3j) <https://bit.ly/3jrqw3j>.
- Print outs from database records if patrons cannot access the database at home.
- Please use the [online lookup request form](https://bit.ly/2UQXJKE) <https://bit.ly/2UQXJKE> to submit requests.

*Some items may be temporarily unavailable due to construction

Print collection

More than 27,000 books in the collection can be checked out. The entire collection is included in the library's [online catalog](https://slouc.na2.iiivega.com/) <https://slouc.na2.iiivega.com/>. Books with call numbers that do not begin with "R" are available to check out. Patrons can request books online or by calling 314-994-3300.

*Some items may be temporarily unavailable due to construction

Research guidance

H&G staff members can provide research assistance by phone.

Book-a-Genealogist

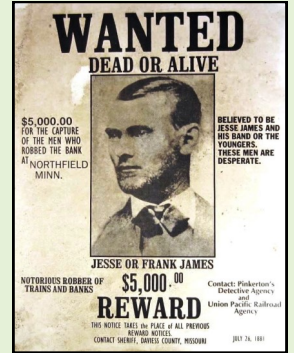
Researchers encountering brick-walls or who would like assistance in developing a plan to achieve specific research goals can schedule a consultation with an H&G staff member. Requests can be made using the online [Book-a-Genealogist form](https://bit.ly/3fQbB0r) <https://bit.ly/3fQbB0r>.

Database access

Many library [databases](https://bit.ly/3hBmF3Y) <https://bit.ly/3hBmF3Y> can be used at home by St. Louis County Library card holders living in the metropolitan area. For more information, please contact the History & Genealogy Department at 314-994-3300 or genealogy@slcl.org.

This month in history

On September 5, 1847, the famous outlaw Jesse James was born near the present-day town of Kearney in Clay County, Missouri. At the age of sixteen, he began fighting as a pro-Confederate guerrilla during the Civil War along with his brother Frank. They were followers of the famous "bushwhackers" William Quantrill and "Bloody Bill" Anderson.



After the war, Jesse and his brother were members of various outlaw gangs involved in nefarious acts such as violent bank and train robberies. These acts would lead to the wild legends and world-renowned fame associated with his name today.

The St. Louis County Library History & Genealogy Department has several books available to view at the Daniel Boone Branch that feature stories of Jesse James, as well as a family history of the

James family that can be requested, *Background of a Bandit: The Ancestry of Jesse James*.

H & G PROGRAMMING

Stay tuned to future issues of PastPorts, as History & Genealogy will be resuming in-person classes and programs in the coming months. All SLCL programming and registration information can be found at slcl.org/events.

STLGS Events

Monthly Meeting: What Should I Do With My Stuff?

Saturday, September 10, 10:00 am, Thornhill Branch/hybrid
Speaker: Bob Goode

Every family has “stuff”: documents, photos, books, and heirlooms worthy of preservation. Who gets the “stuff”? How do you preserve it? We will try to answer some of the questions about what to do with “stuff.”

German SIG Meeting: Researching St. Louis Germans in the Civil War

Wednesday, September 21, 7:00 pm, Oak Bend Branch/hybrid
Speaker: Robin McDonough

Many German immigrants who came to St. Louis were involved in the Civil War. Explore their history and contributions and learn how to research them.

STLGS Fall Speaker Series

“New Approaches to Old Problems”

Featuring D. Joshua Taylor, MA, MLS, FUGA

Saturday, October 1

Maryland Heights Community Center

2300 McKelvey Rd.

Maryland Heights, Missouri 63043

Lecture 1: Bridging the Gap: Finding Ancestors in the United States Between 1780 and 1840

Lecture 2: My New England Research is Done . . . Or Is It?

Lecture 3: Having No Children: Tracing Relatives with No Known Descendants

Lecture 4: On and Off the Net: Locality Searching

Visit stlgs.org for more information and to register.

MOHIST YOUTUBE

Did you know that the Missouri History Museum has a YouTube channel? Check out the “STL History Live “ series:

“STL History Live brings you fascinating stories about St. Louis. These programs include a 20- to 30-minute presentation followed by a brief Q&A.”

Titles include “Discovery Tour: Spooky St. Louis,” “Tracing a Forgotten Immigrant Across South St Louis,” “African Americans and Civil War Medicine,” “Lives on the Edge: Women in Colonial St. Louis,” and “The History of Veterans Day.” With over 150 videos, there is something for everyone!

Check out these and other Missouri History Museum videos at youtube.com/user/MissouriHistory.

HOLIDAY CLOSURE

Monday, September 5, all St. Louis County Library locations will be closed for the Labor Day holiday.

PastPorts is published by History & Genealogy at the St. Louis County Library

Current and past issues can be downloaded from the web <http://www.slcl.org/pastports>.

Contact us:

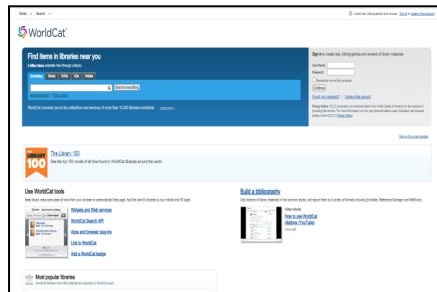
History & Genealogy
St. Louis County Library
Temporary Location—Daniel Boone Branch
300 Clarkson Rd.
Ellisville, MO 63011

314-994-3300
genealogy@slcl.org
www.slcl.org/genealogy

Data life

SAMPLINGS FROM THE WEBSITE COLLECTION

Looking for a particular genealogy book that is not available at your local library? Check out Worldcat.org. Wordcat is an online catalog that allows users to search for items in more than 10,000 libraries in the U.S. and foreign countries. You may find that the book you are looking for is available to view nearby, or you may want to try to acquire it through your local library's interlibrary loan service. Visit www.worldcat.org/ and open up the world's card catalog!



75 Things to Do at SLCL

To celebrate St. Louis County Library's 75th Anniversary, complete our "75 Things To Do at SLCL" challenge and explore what the library has to offer. Pick up a brochure at your local branch, then log your activities online using Beanstack. Activities include historical talks, trivia, scavenger hunts, special giveaways and more. Complete three activities in each of the five categories to be entered in an electronic raffle for a \$75 Visa gift card. See slcl.org/75 for more information.

DID YOU KNOW



Along with the St. Louis County Library, another St. Louis staple, KSDK Channel 5, also opened its doors in 1947. KSD, owned by the Pulitzer Publishing Company, had long been operating as a radio station. Helmed by general manager George Burbach, it broadcast the first television program in St. Louis on February 8, 1947. Its studios were located on Olive St. There were only four television sets in the area, and KSD-TV was only the ninth TV station in the county.

People gathered in public spaces to watch the first broadcast, which was about 2 1/2 hours long. It consisted of an opening ceremony and sports interviews, including one from the Cardinal's catcher Joe Garagiola.

In August, 1947, KSD-TV installed a more powerful transmitter, and the signal was able to reach homes. The number of viewers gradually increased, as well as the number of broadcasts, including those done on remote relocations.

By the end of the year, television set advertisements could be found everywhere, and the rest is history.



KSD-TV was the only television station in St. Louis until KTVI was able to get an FCC license and began broadcasting in 1953. KSD-TV was also the first St. Louis TV station to broadcast in color in the

1960's. The station also launched its first 5 pm newscast in the same decade. The name was changed to KSDK in 1983 when it was sold to Multimedia, Inc. It has always been an NBC affiliate. Much has changed in local programming since 1947, including around-the-clock broadcasting, high definition and much more. Happy 75th KSDK!



LOUISIANA NEWSPAPERS

Do you have Louisiana ancestors? Newspapers.com, available through the St. Louis County Library, has updated the following Louisiana newspapers:

The Madison Journal, Tallulah, LA 1889-1925

The St. Mary Banner, Franklin, LA 1890-1931

St. Tammany Farmer, Covington, LA 1878-1926

The Franklin Sun, Winnsboro, LA 1875-1963

The Dehli Dispatch, Dehli, LA 1934-1963

The St. Charles Herald, Hahnville, LA 1875-1963

St. Helena Echo, Greensburg, LA 1857-1926

TECH TALK

Many genealogy records can be found online. Learn how to protect yourself and your computer while using the internet. The St. Louis County Library's Department of Adult Programming is presenting the following:

Internet Safety

- September 6, 6:30-8:30 pm, Lewis and Clark Branch
- September 8, 9:30-11:30 am, Samuel C. Sachs Branch
- September 10, 9:30-11:00 am, Cliff Cave Branch

Learn tips for staying secure from viruses, hackers and false information, how to bequeath online accounts and how to create and manage strong passwords. Registration required. Prerequisites: Internet Basics or equivalent experience.

Register at slcl.org/events.

SLCL HISTORY PROGRAMS

The St. Louis County Library's Department of Adult Services is presenting the following history programs:

Bowling: How St. Louis Rolls

September 1, 2:00-3:00 pm, Oak Bend Branch

September 19, 10:30-11:30 am, Jamestown Bluffs Branch

September 26, 6:30-7:30 pm, Parkview Branch

Presented by the Reference Department. Discover St. Louis' rich bowling history with this fun and informational program. Using newspaper accounts, biographies, and photographs, you will be "bowled over" to learn the role St. Louis has played in this popular sport! Adults. Registration required.

Remember When: History of Vintage Toys and Board Games

September 7, 2:00-3:00 pm, Florissant Valley Branch

Presented by the Reference Department. Get ready for a trip down memory lane! From vintage to high-tech, there's something for every child (and child at heart!) in this program featuring the toys and games that have influenced generations of kids. Adults. Registration required.

True Crime in Missouri

September 7, 7:00-8:00 pm, Lewis & Clark Branch

September 24, 2:00-3:00 pm, Bridgeton Trails Branch

September 29, 2:00-3:00 pm, Thornhill Branch

Presented by the Reference Department. Investigate historical crimes using library databases and resources. Dig deeper by using library resources to create requests for reports and court documents. Adults. Registration required.

History Past and Present: St. Louis County Library Origins

September 8, 2:00-3:00 pm, Oak Bend Branch

Learn about the exciting history of the St. Louis County Library from the beginning. Part of SLCL's 75th Anniversary Celebration. Adults.

Insert Coin: A History of Video Games, Part 1

September 8, 6:30-7:30 pm, Thornhill Branch

Presented by the Reference Department. The first of a four

part series, "Insert Coin" examines the early days of arcade games, featuring Atari, Space Invaders and the Japanese arcade invasion. Adults and teens. Registration required.

St. Louis Love

September 12, 2:00-3:00 pm, Virtual

Presented by historian Elizabeth Eikmann, PhD. Fall in love with St. Louis all over again! Swoon over these unconventional and lesser known histories of our city. Part of SLCL's 75th Anniversary Celebration.

Foods of St. Louis

September 12, 2:00-3:00 pm, Bridgeton Trails Branch

September 14, 10:00-11:00 am, Oak Bend Branch

September 14, 6:30-7:30 pm, Parkview Branch

September 15, 6:30-7:30 pm, Lewis & Clark Branch

September 17, 2:00-3:00 pm, Thornhill Branch

September 27, 2:30-3:30 pm, Jamestown Bluffs Branch

Presented by the Reference Department. Uncover the history and lore behind many of the iconic foods for which St. Louis is known. This program includes vintage recipes, restaurant reviews, and the history of St. Louis food culture. Adults. Registration required.

Ultimate Photo Album

September 19, 2:00-3:30 pm, Samuel C. Sachs Branch

September 19, 7:00-8:30 pm, Virtual

Photo albums are a fantastic way to organize, preserve and share your precious photos. This informative program demonstrates how web based self publishing companies make it easy and fun to create the Ultimate Photo Album for weddings, vacations, family histories and so much more.

Beyond the Gates: St. Louis Mayors Who Now Reside

September 29, 6:00-7:30 pm, Lewis & Clark Branch

Presented by Bellefontaine Cemetery. Learn about the former St. Louis mayors who have been laid to rest at Bellefontaine Cemetery and Arboretum and how their stories reveal St. Louis' development. Adults.

See slcl.org/events for more information and to register.

CLASSIC CLIPPING



AUGUST 5, 1900

SUNDAY MORNING—ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH—AUGUST 5, 1900.

FIRST AUTOMOBILE RACE IN THE WEST OCCURS IN ST. LOUIS TODAY.

There Are 35 Horseless Carriages in St. Louis and They Cost \$70,000. But "There Would Be Many More, in Spite of the Expense, if the Streets Were Not So Bad," Say Automobilists.

STANHOPE, OWNED BY W. W. MORGAN, 3824 LINDELL BLVD.

STANHOPE, OWNED BY DR. JULIUS G. ERHARDT, GRAND AND BELL AVES. WIDMAN.

TUNABOUT, OWNED BY STANLEY S. SCOTT, 3316 MORGAN ST.

DEMI MAIL PHAETON, OWNED BY JAMES CAMPBELL, Grand and Washington Aves.

CARRIAGE, OWNED BY JOHN C. HIGDON, 3561 VON VOLKMAN AVE.

THOS. H. COOPER, 3713 WASHINGTON BLVD.

MRS. HARRY GEER.

HEAD WAGONS, OWNED BY CHARLES DRUMMOND, 2110 LINDELL BLVD. THOS. H. COOPER, 3713 WASHINGTON BLVD. JOHN HART, 19 PORTLAND PLACE. AND H. S. TURNER, UNIVERSITY CLUB.

CART, OWNED BY JAMES R. O'NEIL, 4147 J. LINDELL BLVD.

CA. WISE, OWNED BY JOHN L. FRENCH, 1862 WEST PINE ST.

FRENCH MOTOR CYCLE, OWNED BY R. L. DYKE, 3215 WASHINGTON AVE.

THE first official automobile race ever run in Missouri will occur today at the Fair Grounds. This race is the feature of the Great Chicago week. The race will start at 2 o'clock. The distance is two miles, or five times around the arena.

Five automobiles, each run by its owner, have been entered for this contest. A silver cup and the championship of St. Louis are to the victor. The five entries will be lined up behind the starter's gate precisely as though they were racehorses.

They will reach the "tape" or line across the track in front of the grandstand on even terms.

Who the starter will shout, and with what the wheel part of steam and the propeller of the gasoline engine the first regular automobile race will be run.

All the machines entered are speedy. The

directly of the operator will have bearing on the result. Each racer will try to cut across his rival's path and hug the pole or inside track. Here's a fine chance for a smashup.

It is likely that the auto will finish the race in a hunch.

On the final circuit each operator will crowd on steam, gasoline or push his electric lever to the highest notch.

The owners of the auto entered for the race are expert sportsmen. They each think their own machine is the fastest in town and they are willing to risk losing it to prove their claim. The chart race, wherein Ben Hur won some fame, will be a tame affair beside this automobile contest. If the assertions of the participants are not at fault, there are 25 automobiles in St. Louis.

There are 25 automobiles in St. Louis. Their value is \$70,000. Others are being built.

Edison is a horseless vehicle now east of St. Louis and no city in the country has been so slow in adopting the automobile as St. Louis. Automobiles are still in the condition of the streets and roads.

Harry R. Geer, 408 Hall's Ferry road, owns three autos.

The slow adoption of the auto and the retirement of the bicycle in St. Louis are due to the poor streets. Not until the thirties are improved and kept in the condition they should be will there be a large number of horseless vehicles in St. Louis.

After the big race each machine entered will make a speed trial. They will race separately against time.

Following are the entries for the race: Stanley Scott, 3316 Morgan street, electric runabout.

A. L. Dyke, 2115 Washington avenue, gas-

oline motorcycle.

John L. French, 402 West Pine street, electric runabout (made in St. Louis).

A. D. Hunt, 316 Morgan street, electric runabout (made in St. Louis).

Harry R. Geer, 408 Hall's Ferry road, steam automobile.

When I took my first lesson on the neighborhood of Twelfth street, one morning at daylight, I had not the slightest knowledge of what made the carriage go, but after a 20-minute lecture on the usage of the different levers, steering rod, belt and brake, I was instructed to take my place on the right hand side of the carriage, while Mr. Geer sat on the left. I threw forward the throttle lever; we were off. We did not start slowly and smoothly as we did when my instructor handed the

levers, but with a jump like an olive-stone car with a new motorist. We appeared to be tearing down Twelfth street at a mile a minute. The more I tried to stop it the faster it went. The loud street car tracks were directly ahead. It seemed as if we were about to crash from the carriage when the tracks were reached, but my instructor slowly and carefully steered the carriage and we went over the tracks at a snail's pace.

The carriage was then brought to a standstill, and I received another 20-minute lecture. The levers were again placed in my possession. The start this time was much better. The end of Twelfth street was reached at a moderate pace; when I attempted to cross the tracks and turn about, but being used to driving a horse, I had no idea how steep a turn was possible, and when within six

inches of the curbstone it seemed as if we should surely strike. My instructor again reached over my shoulder and brought the machine to a standstill. Then, after we had again changed places, my instructor gave some of them were made. I believe, to a space no larger than a teatable, both backward and forward.

I was again given control of the levers and with the exception of a few slight mistakes, got along fairly well. For three hours I guided the machine up and down Twelfth street and by that time it seemed as if I had operated an automobile all my life, but as the street was becoming more and more frequented by electric cars and

Continued on the Next Page of This Magazine.

Clipping courtesy of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, August 5, 1900, page 33.